

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TUNIS 02865 261236Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-15 IO-13 ACDA-10 SSM-05 EUR-12 ARA-10

/127 W

-----261242Z 123399 /50

R 261110Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6538

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

ZRUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO 900

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

UNCLAS TUNIS 2865

3.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR TS LY EG ET CG

SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN VICE PRESIDENT MUBARAK VISITS TUNIS.

1. GOE VICE PRESIDENT HUSNI MUBARAK VISITED TUNIS ON APRIL 23 AND 24 TO BRIEF GOT OFFICIALS ON PRESIDENT SADAT'S RECENT TRIP TO THE U.S., FRANCE AND THE FRG. WHILE HERE, MUBARAK MET WITH PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA, PRIME MINISTER NOUIRA AND FOREIGN MINISTER CHATTY.HE GAVE A PRESS CONFERENCE AT HIS DEPARTURE.

2. IN THE PRESS CONFERENCE, MUBARAK SAID THAT THE GOE DOES NOT FORGET THE ASSISTANCE IT HAS RECEIVED FROM THE SOVIET UNION. HE SAID THE USSR MUST BE INCLUDED IN THE PREPARATORY WORK OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE ON THE MIDDLE EAST AND ITS PARTICIPATION IN THE CONFERENCE REMAINS A NECESSITY. MUBARAK NOTED THAT THERE IS COORDINATION OF SOVIET AND EGYPTIAN EFFORTS ON THE MIDDLE EAST QUESTION. WHEN ASKED
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BY JOURNALISTS IF AN AMERICAN PLAN EXISTS FOR SETTLEMENT OF THE MIDDLE EAST QUESTION, MUBARAK SAID THAT THE USG IS SEEKING TO LEARN THE VIEWS OF ALL ARAB COUNTRIES AS IS DEMONSTRATED BY THE VISITS TO THE U.S. OF KING HUSSEIN, PRESIDENT ASAD AND PRINCE FADH.

3. ON EGYPTIAN RELATIONS WITH LIBYA, MUBARAK SAID THAT

GOE NOURISHES NO FEELINGS OF ANIMOSITY TOWARD THE LIBYAN PEOPLE AND ASSERTED THAT THE DIGNITY OF LIBYANS RESIDENT IN EGYPT IS RESPECTED. THE DIGNITY OF EGYPTIANS IN THE JUMUHIRIYYAH, HE SAID, IS FLOUTED BY THE LIBYAN AUTHORITIES. WHEN ASKED IF THERE ARE CUBAN TROOPS ON LIBYA'S BORDER WITH EGYPT, MUBARAK SAID THAT "WE HAVE HEARD RUMORS WITHOUT BEING ABLE TO CONFIRM THEM." HE ADDED THAT EGYPT WILL NOT ALLOW AN ATTACK BY COLONEL QADHAFI AGAINST ANY OTHER COUNTRY.

4. ASKED FOR EGYPT'S ATTITUDE TOWARD THE ZAIRE PROBLEM, MUBARAK EQUATED IT TO THE PROBLEM OF ERITREA AND SAID THAT IT DISQUIETS THE GOE. HE SAID EGYPT WANTS TO REMOVE FOREIGN HEGEMONY FROM AFRICA.

5. COMMENTING ON EGYPTIAN-TUNISIAN RELATIONS, MUBARAK SAID THAT THEY ARE EXCELLENT AND THAT THERE IS "TOTAL COORDINATION" BETWEEN PRESIDENTS BOURGUIBA AND SADAT. HE SAID HIS VISIT TO TUNIS WAS INTENDED TO REINFORCE COORDINATION AND BILATERAL RELATIONS.
MULCAHY

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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